

world has ever seen in any race, has taken place among the English-speaking peoples since the time when Goldsmith gave poetic expression to the general feeling of gloom which prevailed among educated men at what they were pleased to consider the morbid growth of the cities and the decadence of the men in England. Much good has gone hand in hand with the evil of the tremendous industrial development of the day. I do not think the average American multi-millionaire a very high type, and I do not much admire him. But in his place he is well enough; and I am inclined to think that on the whole our people are, spiritually as well as materially, on the average better and not worse off than they were a hundred years ago."

Trevelyan's reply to this letter contained, as usual, much interesting material:

LONDON, March 30,
1905.

Always and especially now that you have such an all important role as the newspapers indicate with reference to Russia, it is certainly a great advantage to be exempt from the wearing, distracting, and sometimes most ignoble details of parliamentary warfare. It was very painful to see Mr. Gladstone exposed to such an ordeal when he had affairs of vast moment upon his hands. I really think that you can have no conception what he went through when he was conducting such pieces of work as the Alabama Treaty; the Egyptian Occupation; the life and death crisis with Eussia over the affairs of Pendjeh; and (above all)

in his old
age, the frightful problem of Ireland.

Think only of one circumstance, that, while
he was passing
his last very great measure, the Irish Land
Act of 1881,
and at the same time was face to face with
what was practically a fierce revolution in Ireland, he was
daily involved
in the sordid detraction and humiliation (if a
great man who
is doing his duty according to his lights can be
humiliated)
of the Bradlaugh difficulty with all its clouds
of calumny
and virulence.

I know that you have your own share of the
troubles and